



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 84

February Session, 2008

Senate Bill No. 540

Senate, March 20, 2008

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through SEN. STILLMAN of the 20th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT DOUBLING THE FINES FOR MOVING MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS OCCURRING IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE AREAS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective October 1, 2008*) (a) The Superior Court
2 shall impose an additional fee equivalent to two times the fine
3 established or imposed for the violation of the provisions of section 14-
4 218a, 14-219, 14-220, 14-222, 14-223, 14-227a, 14-230a, 14-231, 14-232, 14-
5 233, 14-234, 14-235, 14-236, 14-237, 14-238, 14-238a, 14-239, 14-240, 14-
6 241, 14-242 or 14-243 of the general statutes for any such violation
7 committed in an emergency response area.
- 8 (b) For purposes of this section, "emergency response area" means
9 the scene of an accident that public safety, fire or emergency personnel
10 have designated as such with flares.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>October 1, 2008</i>	New section
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PS *Joint Favorable*

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 09 \$	FY 10 \$
Judicial Dept.	GF - Revenue Gain	Less than 150,000	Less than 200,000

Note: GF=General Fund

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill establishes a new fee that is twice the fine imposed for certain motor vehicle violations that occur in an “emergency response area” as defined in the bill. Based on estimated revenues generated under existing laws that double fines for violations that occur in utility and construction zones, as well as school zones, it is anticipated that the bill would generate less than \$200,000 annually. Since the bill does not include this new fee among fines, fees, and surcharges¹ that must be deposited into the Special Transportation Fund², any revenues generated under the bill would be deposited into the General Fund.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would remain constant into the future since fines are set by statute.

¹ CGS 13b-59(g)

² In accordance with CGS 13b-59(d) and 13b-61(b)(4).

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 540*****AN ACT DOUBLING THE FINES FOR MOVING MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS OCCURRING IN EMERGENCY RESPONSE AREAS.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the court to assess an additional fee equal to twice the fine established or imposed for 21 specified traffic violations committed at an accident scene designated with flares by public safety, fire, or emergency personnel.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2008

TRAFFIC VIOLATIONS TO WHICH THE BILL APPLIES

The bill applies the 200% increase to the following violations.

§ 14-218a	Traveling unreasonably fast
§ 14-219	Speeding
§ 14-220	Slow speed
§ 14-222	Reckless driving
§ 14-223	Disobeying signal of officer
§ 14-227a	Operating under the influence of liquor or a drug or with an elevated BAC (.08%)
§ 14-230a	Commercial vehicle use of restricted lane
§ 14-231	Failure to grant one-half of the highway
§ 14-232	Improper passing

§ 14-233	Passing on the right
§ 14-234	Passing in no passing zone
§ 14-235	Failure to keep right on curve or hill or at intersection or railroad crossing
§ 14-236	Failure to drive in proper lane on limited access highway
§ 14-237	Driving wrong way on divided highway
§ 14-238	Illegal entry or exit on controlled-access highway
§ 14-238a	Entering limited-access highway at other than designated point
§ 14-239	Wrong way driving on one-way street
§ 14-240	Following too closely
§ 14-241	Improper turns
§ 14-242	Failure to give signals before starting or stopping
§ 14-243	Improper starting or backing vehicle

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 0 (03/06/2008)